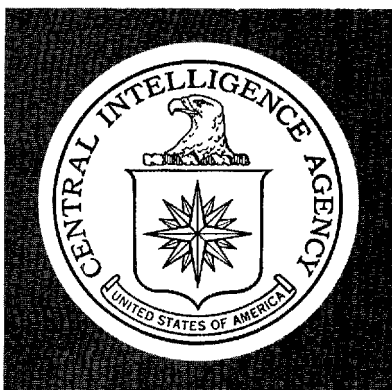


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Cyprus: Political crisis may lead to suspension of the intercommunal talks. (Page 8)

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Cyprus: The resignation of Greek Cypriot Minister of Interior and Defense Georkatzis is beginning to have political repercussions in Nicosia and may lead to a suspension of the intercommunal talks on the island.

Georkatzis was forced to resign as the result of pressure from Athens, which alleged that he aided the group which attempted to assassinate Greek Prime Minister Papadopoulos last summer. [redacted] the island may be in for some "rough weather." House President Clerides, the Greek Cypriot negotiator in the intercommunal talks, has said he intends to demand the resignation of the government and the scheduling of general elections before the end of the year. Private armed groups, loyal to Georkatzis and with considerable influence throughout the island, also are expected to demand the resignation of the government and new elections.

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Nationalist pro-enosis appeals during an election campaign could provoke an adverse reaction among the Turkish Cypriots. The Turks, however, probably would not object if elections are held under existing electoral procedures which provide for separate elections within the Turkish Cypriot community. Talks between the two communities on the island may have to be suspended until the developing political crisis is resolved. [redacted]

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